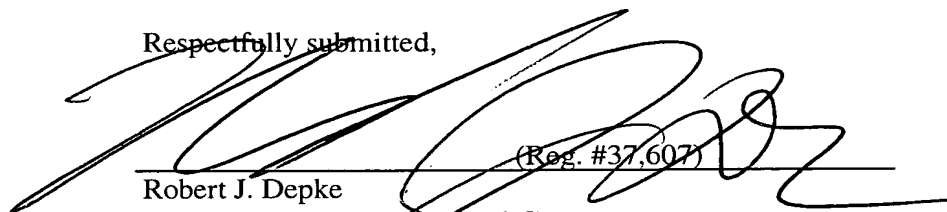


**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Before the first line insert:

--This application claims priority to Japanese Patent Application Number JP2002-058500, filed March 5, 2002, which is incorporated herein by reference.—

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Robert J. Depke, is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the last name 'Depke' being particularly prominent.

(Reg. #37,607)

Robert J. Depke

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